

peak melting temperature T_p such that $T_p - T_0$ is less than $T_p^{0.7}$; and

- (ii) a catalytic moiety which is bonded to the polymeric moiety through a bond having a strength of at least 10 Kcal/mole, and which, when in contact with the matrix material at an elevated temperature, catalyzes a chemical reaction of the matrix material, and
- (b) is in the form of solid particles which
 - (i) are distributed in the matrix material,
 - (ii) have an average particle size of less than 150 micron, and
 - (iii) when heated above T_p , undergo a physical change which
 - (A) substantially increases the extent to which the matrix material is contacted by the catalytic moiety and
 - (B) causes the chemical reaction of the matrix material to take place.

31. (Previously added) A composition according to claim 30 wherein the modifying agent is in the form of particles having an average particle size of 0.1 to 50 micron.

32. (Previously added) A composition according to claim 30 wherein the polymeric moiety comprises a side chain crystalline polymeric moiety.

33. (Previously added) A composition according to claim 32 wherein the side chain crystalline polymeric moiety comprises units derived from one or more monomers comprising an n-alkyl group containing 12 to 50 carbon atoms.

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34. (Previously added) A composition according to claim ³⁰~~54~~ wherein said units are derived from an n-alkyl acrylate, n-alkyl methacrylate, n-alkyl acrylamide or n-alkyl methacrylamide.